



HUNTING TRAILS

CARTRIDGES & ARROWS



*Newsletter for the Missouri Department of Conservation's
Hunter Education, Bowhunter Education, & Shooting Programs*

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"Over 1 Million Served"

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Discover Hunting - The Next Step

*By Eric Edwards, Outdoor Education Center Supervisor, August A. Busch
Shooting Range*

"So I got my Hunter Education certification, now how do I learn to hunt?" This is the question that more and more of the MDC staff are hearing from the public. It may sound inconceivable to you and I, but some folks don't have anyone in their family that hunts or does much of anything outdoors.

When I was growing up all my family hunted. Grandpa, dad, uncles, and every one of them was willing to take me under their wing and show me the ropes. Even though I thought I knew what I was doing, they always took me along. As with most of us that start hunting at an early age, I can't remember just exactly how I learned what I know now. I do know that I always enjoyed the conversations at the hunting cabin. I listened intently to those stories and I guess I always thought they were just that, stories.

As a kid that had a father who never stood for "foolishness," I always found it peculiar how my dad's face would have a smile on it when we would first turn the beagles out of their boxes. Dogs running everywhere, noses to the ground, I couldn't figure it out 'It's not like they're running anything,' I would think to myself.

With time, and my persistence that "I'm ready to hunt by myself," eventually my mentors allowed me to venture out on my own. I soon realized after many blown attempts, at taking game, that I didn't know everything. Then those "stories" started coming back to me as I would have a similar situation arise, "Keep the wind in your face," and "Let'em circle one

more time."

Now as a father of three, a husband and working a full-time job, I understand why my father smiled at the sight of hounds running around doing their "thing." I can't tell you how long it took for all of this to set in but I now know that the "stories" weren't just "stories." They were lessons, and it wasn't rabbit hunting, it was a teaching moment on how to enjoy the entire hunt, not just taking game.

As many of you know, the key to keeping our recreational pastime strong, is that we must have well informed, educated and safe hunters. I believe that we are proving that Hunter Education works, thanks to the tireless efforts of many hunter education instructors such as yourself.

In the Missouri Hunter Education class we teach safety, the first and most important aspect in becoming a good sportsman/woman. However, we must realize that most of the next generation is several generations removed from the "farm." Not that long ago, even if you lived in the city, you had

a grandpa and grandma, or perhaps an aunt and uncle that still lived on the family farm. Most of these folks hunted and always encouraged their "city relatives" to come out and go hunting. As more and more generations left the farm to move to more urban areas, this pastime was not being passed down to the next generations.

When I received calls from the public about how to get started hunting, it was hard to fathom. When talking to the callers it seemed there was a pattern that was forming, and it surprised me even more. These people who were calling weren't 12 or 16 years old, they were in their mid twenties and up to the late thirties. As most of you know, the MDC has

MDC DISCOVER Hunting

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many programs and hunts designed for youths and women, but what about the person I described earlier? What could I provide for them? How could I relate to all these people the “stories” I have learned from and come to appreciate?

I would generally respond with “Do you know anyone who hunts?” Most of the responses were no. Most of them had seen an article, or they enjoyed the outdoors. Some had taken up shooting and that had fostered an interest in hunting. When talking with other MDC employees, we realized this was a growing concern statewide and not just in the St. Louis region where I work. After outlining what we needed and the results we wanted to attain, we came up with a new program called “Discover Hunting.”

I know that this has been a long-winded story to get to this point, but I wanted to give you a little background on how Discover Hunting came about. Below is a brief description of Discover Hunting. Thank you for letting me tell my “story” and thank you to all of those who have shared their “stories” with me, it has taught me more than you know!

The Missouri Department of Conservation is excited to announce Discover Hunting programs. Discover Hunting programs are designed to help youth and adults experience the rich traditions of hunting through shooting skills classes and hunting clinics. These hands-on workshops build on the foundation of Hunter Education to create knowledgeable, responsible and confident hunters ready to go afield for their first actual hunt. Discover Hunting programs also help you appreciate and respect the wildlife you harvest and the habitats that sustain them. Discover Hunting workshops may even inspire you “to pay it forward,” mentoring new hunters and sharing the joys of simply being outdoors in nature—even if the “big one” gets away.

Please look for the logo or the title in upcoming programs in your area. Also, visit and pass along the program’s web page www.mdc.mo.gov/programs/discoverhunting/.

Missourians Win Again

As most instructors know, each hunter and bowhunter education graduate receives a *Hunter’s Handbook* from the IHEA and published by Focus Group, Inc. In the magazine is a card for the student to enter the Winners Circle drawing. Each year Focus Group, Inc. picks 12 students from literally thousands of entries. As a reward for instructor’s time and efforts in educating new hunters, the winning student’s instructor receives the same prize.

For the second year, Missourians were selected to win prizes. This year, student Keith Marshall, of Kansas City, and instructor Don Sears, of Pleasant Hill, were winners in this drawing that was announced at the 2009 IHEA Annual Conference held in Canada. Each of these winners received a “SPOT - Satellite Personal Tracker,” the first satellite messenger and a one-year subscription to their service.

Congratulations to Keith and Don!! Let’s hope our streak continues at next year’s IHEA conference.



Coordinator’s Corner

Hunter Education & Range Coordinator
Tony L. Legg
tony.legg@mdc.mo.gov

Things continue to move forward here at Central Office on hunting and range programs. Maggie and Lynn are working hard to get bids on this year’s banquet attendance gifts to avoid last year’s delay with the backpacks. This year, attending instructors will receive special laser engraved folding pocket knives and pocket sharpeners. These knives are great for regular use, classroom training or just for display.

At the end of the year we will be looking for nominees for the annual State Volunteer Hunter Education Instructor, Conservation Agent Hunter Education Instructor and the new MDC Staff Hunter Education Instructor and Bowhunter Education Instructor of the Year awards. We will need panel members at Central Office to review the nominees and choose winners. Glad I get to stand back and not have to make those tough decisions.

We are looking at updating our Hunter Education Instructor Training and Certification Program in the near future. We will look to senior instructors, MHEIA, MHMF, staff, and others to make suggestions and help mold this program for the future. We have some vague ideas, but no dedicated direction right now and hope with the help of all we can make some great decisions on how to move forward and create a quality program.

Hunting seasons have already kicked off and more are on the way. Hope all of you get to get out there and get those trophies and fill those freezers. Most of my hunts will be in fantasies as my schedule continues to be non-stop. Whether it’s deer, turkey, quail, grouse, dove, waterfowl or other game, be sure to take pictures and write a short story to go along with it and submit it for the next newsletter. We would all love to hear your tale and see the outcome. Good luck and be safe out there.

LA SUPREME COURT REINSTATES HUNTER SHOOTING CONVICTION - The Louisiana Supreme Court has found that a deer hunter who shot and killed his friend was properly convicted of negligent homicide. A jury convicted him, but the court of appeals found the evidence did not support a finding of criminal negligence, and reversed. The supreme court reinstated the conviction and sentence. It found that the evidence showed that the men went hunting together without required wearing of hunter orange, and split up and moved around. Jake Desoto (Desoto) shot and killed his friend, Kain Roy, (Roy) when it was getting dark, and he could not clearly identify his target. The court noted, “A victim’s own negligence does not negate a finding of criminal negligence.” *State of Louisiana v. Jake DeSoto*, No.07-K-1804 (La.Supreme Ct., Mar.17, 2009).



Southwest Missouri Hunters Convicted In Wyoming

On October 3, 2005, a party of five hunters from southwest Missouri were hunting on the Boner Ranch about 20 miles northeast of Lusk, Wyoming. The party was hunting for mule deer when a local outfitter observed the party shoot a mule deer buck on private property and flee after cutting off the head and cape. The outfitter immediately contacted local game warden Gary Boyd.

On October 4, 2005, game warden Boyd contacted the hunters on the Boner Ranch. The subjects would not admit to having anything to do with the illegally harvested and wasted mule deer buck. Warden Boyd told the suspects to stay until the matter was cleared up. When Warden Boyd left to get the outfitter to identify the hunters, they packed their equipment and fled back to Missouri.

On October 7, 2005, Warden Boyd contacted Conservation Agent Quenten Fronterhouse about the incident and requested assistance. Agent Fronterhouse immediately put a team of Agents together to investigate the wildlife violation report from Wyoming. The Agents contacted the suspects at their homes and conducted interviews. DNA samples from the suspects' harvested mule deer were also taken to compare with the mule deer carcass left in Wyoming. Lab results confirmed that the suspects' freshly harvested mule deer did not match with the carcass left in Wyoming and the case became cold.

In August 2006 the case was referred to the new Lusk game warden, Andy Countryman. Warden Countryman, a southwest Missouri native, quickly discovered the hunting party was involved in the illegal harvest and waste of the mule deer buck due to his past connections in Missouri.

During the winter of 2006-2007, the investigation revealed three of the five hunters were involved in a mule deer buck high-grading operation. An interview led to the admission that the group was involved in the taking of the first reported mule deer buck. Interviews with unaffiliated hunters led to the discovery of another headless mule deer buck. In March 2007, the remains of the second headless buck were discovered in the field and sent to the lab for DNA comparison. The results came back positive to one of the mule deer buck heads taken back to Missouri in October 2005 and sampled by Missouri Conservation Agents. A third wasted mule deer buck was also discovered by cross-examination of the report by game wardens Boyd and Countryman.

Due to the Lacey Act violation, Game Warden Andy Countryman contacted the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in an effort to continue the investigation in Missouri. He was granted the permission to investigate as a U.S. Deputy Game Warden and was assisted by the team of Missouri Conservation Agents.

In May 2007, Missouri Conservation Agents from four counties assisted Warden Countryman with interviews of the suspects. The information obtained from the interviews was crucial in this investigation. During the follow up investigation in Wyoming, Warden Countryman discovered the first reported mule deer buck head still hanging in a tree about a mile from where it was harvested. The all-terrain-vehicle tracks were still there and led him directly to the buck. After lab results and written statements were finalized, the group was charged in the spring of 2008. The investigation led to three of the suspects being charged and convicted of some of the most serious wildlife crimes in Wyoming. The violations included intent of illegally taking antlered big game, wanton destruction of big game, and accessory charges.

In October 2008, all three suspects entered a plea agreement with Niobrara County, Wyoming. Ron Mathes, Sr. of Hollister, MO pled guilty to intent of illegally taking antlered big game and wanton destruction of big game. He paid \$5,030 in fines, \$8,000 in restitution and lost hunting/fishing privileges for five years and will be entered into the Wildlife Violator Compact. Ron Mathes, Jr. of Ridgedale, MO pled guilty to intent of illegally taking antlered big game. He paid \$5,030 in fines, \$4,000 in restitution and lost hunting/fishing privileges for five years and will be entered in the Wildlife Violator Compact. William (Chris) Hudson of Forsyth, MO pled guilty to accessory to wanton destruction of a big game animal. He paid \$3,030 in fines and lost his hunting/fishing privileges for two years and will be entered into the Wildlife Violator Compact. Additionally, all three defendants shall not hunt, fish, attempt or be allowed to obtain a hunting license of any kind in the State of Wyoming during their lifetime.

Due to the actions of the team of Missouri Conservation Agents including, Quenten Fronterhouse, Danton Letterman, Mark Creed, Jeff Harris, Dan Akin and District Supervisor Ralph McNair along with Wyoming Game Warden Andy Countryman, a case was successfully prosecuted with the violators being sentenced and ordered to pay for their crimes.

Instructors Have New Option

Hunter Education and Bowhunter Education instructors have a new option to earn green sheet volunteer hours. MDC needs help in meeting public needs on our unstaffed ranges with help sighting in and being made aware of range rules and safety. Instructors can work with their regional OSS and the range's county Conservation Agent to set up dates and times to be at our ranges to help with public shooters and just monitor the ranges. Instructor's primary purpose is to help the public. Instructors are not to get into confrontations with the public on range violations, but if individuals refuse to follow range rules or misuse the range, instructors can pass along information and vehicle license number to area staff and Conservation Agents to follow-up on.

It Happened To Me!!!



Experience Overload

By Karen Meyer, St. Louis Volunteer Instructor

My August 2008 trip to Namibia for a hunt with Vieranas Safaris was planned January 2007. What wasn't planned was my spring 2008 diagnoses of breast cancer. The chemo program called for eight treatments three weeks apart. I asked my doctor to get out his calendar because I had a trip to go on. Fortunately, the calendar showed that the two-week trip would fall perfectly between the fourth and fifth treatments. I made up my mind I was going, period. If I felt strong enough to hunt, I would. If not, I would enjoy the experience of just being there.

I had hoped to take a Kudu and a Springbok. I ended up with four trophies. Here are the stories.

"Magnificent" Warthog



Warthogs are gray, hairy, ugly, and dirty looking. Why would anyone want one? Late morning on my first day of hunting we arrived at a lovely pond nestled in foothills. Tracker Pete, guide Andre and I walked in and sat in the shade under some bushes. We had not been there more than 10 minutes when Andre on my right whispered "warthog" and indicated to my left. At that distance I could hardly see it walking in. Andre said it looked like a "nice" warthog. As it got closer he said it was a "good" warthog. He then said it was a "really big" warthog. When the warthog was about 10 feet from the water's edge, Andre exclaimed that it was a "magnificent warthog." I thought, darn, maybe I'd better shoot it. I had already put my rifle up on the short sticks. The warthog dropped where it stood. It ranged 92 yards across the pond. I immediately christened the pond "Lake Karen."

Springbok

Mid afternoon while driving across flatland in bright sunshine we came across a small Springbok herd off to our



right. We drove farther past them and stopped. Tracker Pete, guide Andre and I stalked parallel to the herd for 30 minutes and then began to move to the right. We came up behind them. I mounted my rifle on the safari sticks and made a good shot before my trophy was able to move out and into the bush.

Kudu



While making periodic scouting visits to the pond, aka "Lake Karen", it was concluded that unlike the Warthog, the large animals were coming in at the other end where two hills dropped down and came together at a shady cove. A plan was hatched to go back the next day and build a blind on the open bank across from the cove. I watched in fascination as tracker Pete and guide Andre wired a structure of cut mopane trees, wrapped it in camo cloth, and hung leafy branches around the outside. The finishing touches to the blind included a wool blanket on the floor and folding camp chairs inside facing the cove. An hour passed and we decided to have our sandwiches, cookies, and Coke. I had just finished the last of my Coke when a herd of Kudu appeared in the cover. Andre pointed out his preference. It all came together for me. The perfect scope setting, a solid rest on the sticks, and time enough to perfectly place the shot. Distance ranged 120 yards.

You see I'm against hunting, in fact I'm a hunt saboteur. I go out the night before and shoot the fox. - Tim Vine actor and comedian

Hartmann's Mountain Zebra



After taking the two animals I had wanted, the Springbok and Kudu, a last-minute decision was made to also hunt a Hartmann's Mountain Zebra. After climbing to the top of a granite boulder mountain, called a kopje, tracker Colin, guide Andre and I sat four hours in the sun watching for Zebra. After going back to the truck for lunch, we set out to roam over hill and dale in search of the elusive Zebra. Just as hope was fading late afternoon, Andre spotted a Zebra standing farther down the dirt road under a tree. An amazing sight happened when I took the shot. Out of the brush to the right of the road flushed perhaps twenty-some Zebra. They ran across the road in front of us and up the hill, my Zebra going with them. Colin and Andre sprinted up the hill as well. As I followed up the hill, I was quickly reminded that once you lose site of the truck you are lost in a world of rocks and bushes. It took some time for Colin and Andre to locate my Zebra, and it took a little more time for me to locate them.

Upon departure, I wrote in the Vieranas Safaris Guest Book that my Namibian safari had been "experience overload." After all, I wouldn't encounter the danger of fresh elephant tracks in Brentwood.



Intentional Bowhunting

Doug West, Protection Volunteer

"Bowhunting" Just mention the concept and most hunters think right away of deer season. Let's talk a minute about the advantages of altering our mind-set from mainstream to one that at least includes fall turkey hunting. We will be looking at two benefits and two conceptual aspects of fall turkey hunting with a bow.

Now granted, most bowhunters would take a shot at a turkey if one passed within range; however, few set out to find them during this fall hunting period. Thus, you have less hunter overload as you will find in the spring. This can be an advantage to all hunters as opposed to the usual busy woods of the spring. In the spring, I have "talked" to other hunters as we call back and forth, wasting my time and theirs. Thus, the chance of running into someone else "calling" will be

less, which causes less pressure on the turkey.

This pressure on any animal changes their behavior. Most notable is after the first couple of days of rifle season when pressured deer seem to disappear. All patterns are broken, while new ones are formed, at least temporarily. The same is true with turkey, the more pressure on them the increasingly shy they will become. They will be harder to draw in and more easily locked up. With this in mind, we can use this fall deer/turkey season to our advantage by hunting less pressured birds with our bows.

This shift in a mind-set takes a few adjustments to our normal activities. For example, deer hunt the portions of the day in your area that you are most likely to see deer. Then between those times, instead of taking that nap, get up and stretch your legs and get the blood pumping again by slowly walking and calling while intentionally looking for the turkey groups. This is often a nice change of pace after sitting 3 to 5 hours in the morning waiting for the deer. Another advantage of this is, as you're slowly walking, calling and looking for that flock of birds, you could find yourself within range of a deer that is up and wandering around during the midday. Be mindful, wherever you walk, that you have a tag for two different species that both require you to walk with stealth and attention to detail. This is especially true if you want to get within bow range.

Lastly, it is this attention to detail that I want to expand on, specifically the safety issue. As responsible bowhunters, we should ALWAYS be aware of our surroundings because people as well as deer are walking around in the woods. We should be aware that most bowhunters will be dressed in complete camo, so whether we are sitting or walking, be aware that others could be in the area. This caution is ten-fold if you're the one who sees movement. DO NOT draw your bow without first positively identifying the target. I was recently talking to a local hunter on a public access area who walked up on a hunter laying on the ground in a camo suit. He looked over and the gentleman had set up and drew his bow back and was pointing directly at this individual walking. Now it's this type of irresponsibility that causes preventable accidents. In addition to this, it scares many in a time where private land becomes harder to find, forcing more people onto public lands.

Therefore, we are given a great opportunity to include a fall turkey hunt in conjunction with deer hunting during the bow season. However, it would take a shift in our mind-set with an intentional change to our deer hunting habits. There are countless advantages including, a break from normal scenery, as well the possibility of seeing a roaming deer, while looking for less pressured turkey. So as we practice remember to envision the possibility of shooting a fall bird as well. With a smaller target comes the greater responsibility to be accurate. Hunt hard and enjoy all your time in the woods.

50 Years of Shooting and Shooting Education

By Jeff Cockerham, Central and Northeast Region Outreach and Education Supervisor

This past spring marked the 50th anniversary of the United Sportsmen's Club in Jefferson City. First incorporated in 1959, the United Sportsmen's Club has grown to over 1,300 members, making it one of the top 20 gun clubs in the U.S. The club has provided a safe shooting location for rifle, handgun, shotgun and archery shooters during its existence.

The club not only provides a safe facility to its members, but to local law enforcement and state agencies as well. Capital police, Cole County Sheriff's Department, Highway Patrol and Water Patrol are just a few of the agencies to use the facility for training and qualification. 4-H and the Missouri Department of Conservation utilize the facility to introduce and teach youth and beginners hunter safety and shooting skills.

The club also hosts competitions that involve state and national organizations such as the Youth Hunter Education Challenge, Civilian Marksmanship Program, US Practical Shooting Association and the Missouri State Skeet Association. Facilities at the club includes: rifle, muzzle-loading and handgun ranges; trap and skeet fields; a sporting clays range; indoor and outdoor archery ranges; a covered pavilion and picnic area; a club house and a fishing lake.

Outreach & Education Staff Move into New Roles and Positions

Over the past few months some of our staff that instructors and the public regularly contact have changed positions, duties and new individuals have come on board to help keep things moving and in order.



Jackie Haffer has moved from an administrative staff assistant to become the O&E Office Manager supervising all administrative assistants in Outreach, Outdoor Skills and Hunter Education at our Central Office. She will continue to back-up other

staff when needed in handling our hunter & bowhunter education programs, hunting incidents and range program.



Maggie Loethen administrative staff assistant, continues to be the primary contact for hunter and bowhunter education programs. She continues to handle all class information, instructor information, public contact and associated data base information, along with classroom program materials and instructor hours, incentives and awards.



Lynn Merritt-Goggins was hired to fill Jackie's previous administrative staff assistant position. Lynn handles all of our range information and database, hunting incident files and data base entries, and back up Maggie on hunter education issues. Additionally, Lynn supports our O&E media staff. Lynn has been a part-time employee for MDC in multiple divisions and brings a lot of experience and expertise to the position.



Megan Roark was recently hired as a part-time administrative staff assistant, working with the upcoming deer season rush, catching up on backlogs of data, files and research for both hunting education and range needs plus many other tasks. Megan also works with other areas of the O&E Division. Megan has excellent skills in data collection, computer programs and skills that have already proved invaluable to the team.



Because You Asked?

Why did the new crossbow section in chapter five get so many pages?

Well, we could say that it was due to the fact that muzzleloading is pretty much the same in most areas as modern firearm hunting and we only had to cover the differences, which only needed four pages. Archery, which is used during firearms seasons, only needed six pages to cover the basic information not covered in the rest of the manual. Additionally, we have programs around the state to offer additional and individual training on both hunting styles and equipment, plus Bowhunter Education. However, we have no other programs or information to cover crossbows, which are legal for all firearms seasons, so we needed to add a little extra info. While good reasons, these have nothing to do with the real reason.

The real reason is simply that when you print this type of manual, you print in tabloid style, which is one sheet of paper (17 inches by 11 inches) that goes in the manual and has four pages printed on it. Then it lies in the manual with sheet upon sheet, then stapled in the middle and folded. We could not fit all the information onto four pages, so we had to add another 17" x 11" sheet requiring four more printed pages to the manual for a total of eight pages. If you notice, some of the pages have very large graphics, little text and some blank areas. So basically, crossbow does not really have much more text or information than archery in the manual, but it is just spread out to prevent complete blank pages in this new manual and may be adjusted in the next edition.



Kansas City Region, KC Metro District

Outdoor Skills Specialist

David Wyatt

david.wyatt@mdc.mo.gov

As the school year ended and instructors began enjoying time spent with their families, we started off the summer with our Instructor Cookout and Shoot on June 6.

After shooting pistol, rifle, and trap at the Lake City Range that morning, we met at our cookout location for horseshoes, checkers, hula hoop competition and a fishing derby. Even with all of these fun activities, the highlight of the event was the fish cooked by the crew with secret ingredients supplied by Karen and Mike Mansell. Another thing that made the fish taste exceptionally good was the fun we had catching them on our instructor fishing excursions.

Although Hunter Education class attendance numbers usually drop during the summer months, the interest in Bow Hunter Education classes increased during the summer for this area. With the hunt opportunities for archery rising due to local hunts, instructors Jim Shinneman, Dwain Holtzclaw, Dennis Harper, and the staffs at Lake City and Parma conducted eight classes. A short time ago we could hardly fill three classes.

Also during the summer the request for instructor participation for other regional events begins to increase, reaching its peak in October with the various Safety Day events.

Don Sears and two youth volunteers assisted me at Freedom School for a week on the Air Rifle Range. Freedom School reaches several thousand urban youth of various ages during the week-long program from July 13 through the 17 at James A. Reed. Our range program had 500 participants, most having no knowledge of safe firearms handling, but a lot of misinformation related to firearms. We had many youth and leaders leave with an appreciation of their range experience and newly acquired firearms knowledge. With Don's coaching, many kids left the range with smiles and their targets in hand.

On Aug. 4, the city of Blue Springs had a National Night Out Against Crime event that attracted 5,000 attendees. Instructors assisted by setting up an information booth on department programs, firearms safety, hunter and bow education information and even answered questions on fishing related to some of our local lakes. Also in August, Jim Shinneman staffed a Hunter Education information booth in Liberty for Roger's Lures Outdoor Field Day. We finished our community booth displays with instructors Brenda Schulz, Ray Lee, and Robert Hiltibidal participating in the August Bass Pro Fall Classic on Aug 15 and 16.

As we move into fall, instructors will be gearing up for increased class demands, assisting with the dove season at James A. Reed, National Hunting & Fishing Day activities on Sep 26, mentoring youth hunts, and getting into the field themselves with some heading out of state after game.



Don Sears instructing air rifle shooter during Freedom School



Vic and Ilene Van Meter answer questions for the Blue Springs event

"as the weapon became more and more effective, man imposed more and more limitations on himself as the animal's rival in order to leave it free to practice its wily defenses, in order to avoid making the prey and the hunter excessively unequal, as if passing beyond a certain limit in that relationship might annihilate the essential character of the hunt, transforming it into pure killing and destruction." Jose' Ortega y Gasset, Meditations on Hunting



Parma Woods Range & Outdoor Ed Center



Outdoor Education Center Supervisor

Nathan Woodland

nathan.woodland@mdc.mo.gov



Kansas City Region Sedalia/Clinton District

Outdoor Skills Specialist

Mark Miller

mark.miller@mdc.mo.gov

As I sit writing, I am anxiously awaiting the arrival of this fall's hunting seasons. Soon there will be doves, teal, squirrels, deer, turkey, ducks, geese, upland birds, predators, and all kinds of other creatures that will need to be harvested. I can't help but lose some sleep just thinking of all the wonderful adventures I will have this fall. I also look forward to the busy times at the range, as folks start to come out in force to sight in their rifles for the upcoming seasons. Keep safety in your mind this fall and enjoy whatever seasons you take part in. Upcoming classes for the public at the range are as follows. If you would like to register or to help, call the range office at (816) 891-9941.

October

- 1 & 3, Discover Nature Women's Basic Handgun
- 6 - 8, Hunter Education
- 10 - Youth Air Rifle
- 11 - Basic Archery
- 12 - Range Closed for holiday
- 17 - NRA Whitetail Deer Hunting Clinic
- 21 -22, Rifle Sight-In Assistance for Deer Hunters
- 24 - Waterfowl ID

November

- 3 - 5 Hunter Education
- 7 - Hunter Education
- 11 - Range Closed for holiday
- 12 & 14, Intro to Firearms
- 18 - Predator Hunting Seminar
- 19 - Metallic Cartridge Reloading
- 21 - Deer Processing
- 22 - Intro to Muzzleloading
- 25 - Canada Goose Hunting Seminar
- 26 - Range Closed for holiday

December

- 3 & 5, Discover Nature Families Rabbit Hunting
- 9 - Tree ID in Winter
- 10 - Laser Shot at the Range
- 12 - Hunter Education
- 16 - Sausage/Jerky Making
- 17 - Wild Game Cooking
- 25 - Range Closed for holiday

Most attacking bears, as the myth goes, are mothers with cubs. In truth, bears that are alone are involved in attacks eight times more often than females with cubs. -- Tom S. Smith and Stephen Herrero, *"A century of bear-human conflict in Alaska: analyses and implications,"* a study by the U.S. Geological Survey, September 2003

As you're reading this we should be in full swing for the fall class schedule. I want you to know that your dedication and resourcefulness is very much appreciated. I realize that some of the changes that have occurred this year have been difficult to understand and administer. I admire the professionalism you have shown, and your ability to adapt to new procedures. It is truly a pleasure to be able to associate with an exemplary group of volunteers.

I hope you have made plans to get to the field or marsh this season. It's always good to get to "practice" what we "preach." I want you to also make plans to attend the Hunter Education Instructor Banquets we will be having in early winter. If you haven't received your invitation by the end of the year, and want to attend, be sure to contact me at either the Sedalia or Clinton office.

Lastly, I want to thank all of the instructors that helped me with programs and events throughout the summer. I hope you had as much fun working with the kids as I did, and I am surely grateful for the assistance.

As Always, Hunt Safe



Northwest Region

Outdoor Skills Specialist

Tim Miller

tim.miller@mdc.mo.gov

Now that summer is coming to a close, we are preparing for a very busy fall here in the Northwest. A lot of the time recently has been spent getting the new Hunter Education manuals, paperwork, etc. distributed around the region. Thanks again to all the Hunter Education instructors, Conservation Agents and office staff from the Northwest regional office and the Chillicothe office for making this process a smooth one. There were two Hunter Education instructor trainings this summer. The first part of August, I was able to train four school teachers from the North Nodaway school district. These teachers want to incorporate hunter education into their agriculture programs. Having teachers certified as instructors and teaching hunter education in school really helps out the hunter education program by meeting public demand in the rural areas. Another Hunter Education instructor training was conducted by Linn County Conservation Agent Ken Polley. He trained four instructors from Chariton County at Swan

Lake National Wildlife Refuge. Also in August, I visited and teach a chapter at King City School with Hunter Education Instructor Steve Shifflet.

Upcoming Events you may want to participate in:

- Online Field day October 5 Northwest regional office – Tim Miller
- Atchison County Youth Pheasant Clinic October 3 - Agent Eric Abbott (Atchison County Conservation Agent)
- Youth Pheasant and Chukar Clinic October 11 - Agent Jason Braunecker (DeKalb County Conservation Agent)
- Hunter Education Class at Hartell Lakes. October 16 from 6:00 pm - 9:30 pm and October 17 from 8:00 am – 5:00 pm contact Tim Miller 816-271-3111 ext 231



Northeast Region

Outdoor Skills Specialist
Ben Schlader
ben.schlader@mdc.mo.gov

Here we are again, the start of another promising season. I hope everyone had plenty of opportunities to get out and enjoy the beautiful summer. We unfortunately were unable to get together this summer for our traditional Hunter Ed summer banquet. It was scheduled for late August but was evidently a very busy weekend as several instructors informed me that they had other obligations. As we've discussed in the past, we will likely make the move to a late winter annual banquet in an effort to avoid such a busy time of year. I'll be in touch with everybody as soon as a date and location are decided upon.

We once again held a successful youth dove clinic and hunt on August 31 and September 1. The hunt this year took place on the Rebels Cove Conservation Area in Putnam County. Although the doves were not as numerous as we'd hoped, all of the kids did get several shot opportunities and had a good time trying their luck. Thanks to Instructors Jim Robertson and Steve Yates for volunteering their guiding services for the hunt.

Under other happenings, the City of Moberly is allowing archery hunting within City limits, starting this season. In order to hunt, the City is requiring all hunters be Bow Hunter Ed certified. This is the first urban type hunt in the NE Region that will require Bow Hunter Ed Certification. Obviously, this will lead to an increased demand for Bow Hunter Ed Courses, particularly in Randolph County. The first course is to be held September 12 and will likely be the only one for this year, but I anticipate we may need to

schedule two or three in 2010. Please let me know if you are interested in assisting.

Also please note that the 2010 CONSEP held in the NE Region will take place on October 2, 3 and 4. Spots are filling up and I'd like to see as many Hunter Ed Instructors as possible attend this valuable program.

Also, as most everyone knows, please keep close tabs on the manuals for the Fall 2009 and Spring 2010 classes. They have been distributed according to county and everyone should have plenty, but they do need to be used wisely.

Thanks again for everyone's hard work during this busy time of year. Please let me know if there is anything I can do to help you out.



John Murphy, Private Lands Conservationist, guided Justin Daniels on the recent Youth Dove Hunt.



Southeast Region

Outdoor Skills Specialist
DeeDee Dockins
deedee.dockins@mdc.mo.gov

By the time you read this column, the fall season will be well underway. The fall Hunter Ed rush is probably winding down and I want to personally thank all of the Hunter Ed instructors for the hard work and dedication you have put forth. Also, my thanks go out to the Conservation Agents for their hard work in providing support for this program.

We have seen a number of changes this season with the new materials. It is imperative that if you have a concern or question you call me so that everyone is teaching the material we have.

On October 31 (Halloween), we will have the last online Field Day for students who still need their Hunter Education. If you have any interest in helping teach that course please

call me. You can come dressed as a "Hunter Education" instructor.

We will also be offering two Hunter Education Instructor courses for 2010. The first course will be in Stoddard County on February 24-25. The last course will be March 3-4 in Cape County. If you know anyone that would like to be an instructor, have them contact me.

Lastly, this year we will be changing the Hunter Education Instructor Awards Banquet date to March 20. We will host a fun shoot for instructors at Apple Creek Conservation area during the day and then have dinner at a location yet to be announced. That should definitely be a blast! Stay tuned for more information.

Have a great hunting season, and remember to send pictures!

Lyme disease isn't the only worry from overpopulated wildlife. Diseases that originate with wildlife and then mutate to infect humans are a growing health threat. Scientists have documented thirty-eight illnesses that made the leap from animals to people during the past twenty-five years, according to Mark Woolhouse of the University of Edinburgh in Scotland – Andrew Bridges, "Animal diseases pose threat to humans," Associated Press, February 21, 2006, -- *The Politically Incorrect Guide™ to Hunting*, by Frank Minter



Pictured from left to right: Kaylie Morris, Shelby Cagle, Tori Spence, Josie Seely, Samantha Miller, and Kathy Burnett. Not Pictured: Leaders Jody Seely & Heidi Stringer who graduated as well.



Attendees of the HED Instructor Training Class held at Forest Park. From left to right: Steve Fazekas, Sara DeBold, Brian Alcaraz, and Scott Honer.



St. Louis Region

Outdoor Skills Specialists (left to right)

Scott Sarantakis, St. Louis County
scott.sarantakis@mdc.mo.gov

Dennis Cooke, St. Louis City, N. St. Louis County
dennis.cooke@mdc.mo.gov

Conrad Mallady, Crawford-Franklin-Jefferson-
Washington Counties
conrad.mallady@mdc.mo.gov

Kurt Otterstein, Lincoln-St. Charles-Warren Counties
kurt.otterstein@mdc.mo.gov

It's been a great summer, and this fall is shaping up to be just as rewarding. Online Hunter Education registration is up and running, with only a few glitches and it looks like it will be a great success.

First of all, we need to welcome several groups of people.

Cadette Girl Scout Troop 1393 from Troy, graduated from the Missouri Hunter Education course on June 7, 2009. They took this course at Cabela's with Kathy Burnett serving as Chief Instructor.

Also from the Instructor Training class from July 10-11: Sean Gibbons, George Walters, Barry Schmidt, Bob Mackiewicz, Mick Hirsch, Brant Hertell, and Paul Bartelt.

Please welcome our newest HED Instructors Tina Whitley, and Barry Schmidt both from Franklin County. Also welcome Jeff Johnson and Bill Henderson. They both will be volunteering at the Busch range and teaching in the St. Charles area.

If you know someone who would like to become an instructor, please contact any OSS for future course dates.

The Youth Deer Clinic at Columbia Bottom will be on October 10th, with the hunt being on October 24-25.

MEETINGS

- There are three remaining meetings; each will run from 6:30pm - 8:30pm:
- Thursday, December 3, 2009 at Busch Wildlife – With the holiday season in swing, at this meeting we'll be having dinner with a holiday theme. Please bring an appetizer, side dish or dessert. RSVP to Liz Lyons at 636-300-1953 ext 357 by Monday November 30. This meeting will include a brief training on the online registration system, including changes and updates.

- Thursday, February 4, 2010 at Powder Valley
- Thursday, August 5, 2010 at Forest Park

Just a reminder to make a note on your calendar for the HED Banquet on Friday, January 15. We hope to hold it in the same location as last year, at the Holiday Inn – Six Flags. Invitations will be in the mail by mid-November.

Guess what? The NRA has twice as many members as the Sierra Club and Green peace combined.



Busch Range & Outdoor Ed Center

Outdoor Education Center Supervisor
Eric Edwards
eric.edwards@mdc.mo.gov



It's that time of year again! This is the time of year when most of the Hunter Education instructors are busier than ever, and most of us wanting to spend more and more time outdoors. As for the Busch shooting range, we are in the pre-deer season swing of things. Most of our classes will be slowing down and we'll be spending more time concentrating on helping people getting their firearms sighted in and ready to pursue the majestic white-tail.

Listed below are a few of the programs that the range will be conducting in the coming months. If you have the time to come and help us with any of the programs, please let me know. For a complete list of all of our programs please check out our web site at www.mdc.mo.gov/areas/ranges/busch or shoot me an email at eric.edwards@mdc.mo.gov

Thanks and have a safe and memorable fall hunting season.

October

- 1 - Discover Hunting – Deer Sounds, what they mean and how to make them 6-8 pm
- 6 - 8, Hunter Education Class 5:30–9:00 pm
- 9 - 11, Effective Wingshooting, The CONSEP Way
- 10 - Youth Deer Clinic- this clinic is for 120 youth and their mentors that have been drawn for a managed deer hunt at Busch and Weldon Springs

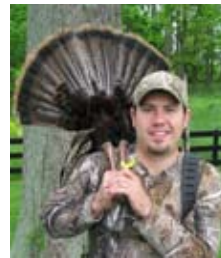
November

- 3 – 5, Hunter Education Class 5:30–9:00 pm
- 12 - Discover Hunting – Knife Sharpening 6-8 pm
- 18 - Discover Hunting – Firearm Selection 6-8 pm

December

- 8 – 10, Hunter Education Class 5:30–9:00 pm
- 16 - Discover Hunting – Sausage making 6-9 pm
- 17 - Discover Hunting – How to cook venison 6-9 pm

Deer kill ten times more people each year than sharks, cougars, bears, and alligators combined -- *The Politically Incorrect Guide™ to Hunting*, Frank Minter



Henges Range & Outdoor Ed Center



Outdoor Education Center Supervisor
Jake Hindman
jake.hindman@mdc.mo.gov

The Jay Henges Shooting Range & Outdoor Education Center, named after former commissioner Jay Henges, opened up its doors to the public in 1993. Since that time the complex has had over 500,000 visitors. The facility offers a 100-yard baffled rifle/pistol range, three trap fields, a shotgun patterning range, and an archery range. Although the current ranges offer a great opportunity for St. Louis-area residents to come out and shoot, the 16 years of operation has presented a need for some repairs. Specifically the rifle/pistol range will be undergoing the most notable renovation.

Beginning December 1, 2009 the rifle/pistol range will close for a complete renovation. The construction project represents an opportunity to provide a state of the art facility for users. The new range will be a total containment range, meaning that the design ensures that projectiles fired from the designated firing line will be contained inside the range complex. With features such as a high pressure concrete floor, baffles (upright and angled plates designed to prevent ricochets from leaving the range), and a metal bullet trap, shooters can be confident of the construction. Brief details of the renovation are listed below: (*Visit the Lake city page to see photos of their new ranges for visual examples*)

- All concrete floor.
- Target distances at 7, 15, 25, 50, 75 and 100 yards.
- Concrete side walls.
- Concrete and steel core upright supports and baffles.
- Metal Bullet trap, (designed to catch projectiles complete for easy lead reclamation.

Although the rifle and pistol range will be closed after December 1, trap, shotgun patterning and the archery ranges will remain open. Current plans include reopening the rifle range late summer or early fall of 2010. Also, come out to Henges and check out our new walk through 3D archery range. It consists of an approximate 1/3 mile walking trail with 12 stations and 15-3D animal targets.

Team Henges Update from the SCTP National Championship:

At the end of the first day (100 targets), Team Henges was in first place out of approximately 180 squads by two targets. After the second 100 targets on the second day, Team Henges tied for second with a squad from Ohio.

After a "last-man-standing" shoot-off at the 27-yard line, Team Henges ended up with a third place in the Varsity Division. The squad members were presented their trophy by Olympic medalist Kim Rhode.



Left to right: Pat Bushman, Head Coach Jan Morris, Jake Hiegel, Benjamin Tihen, Logan Napoli, Red Squad Coach Ken Karcher, and Christine Jack

Listed below are the programs that will be offered at Henges this fall. If you are interested in attending or helping teach please let me know.

October

- 1 - Discover Hunting, Field to Freezer, Deer Processing
- 5 - Discover Hunting, Whitetails Clinic
- 8 - Discover Hunting, How to Use Trail Cameras.
- 14 - Discover Hunting, Waterfowl Clinic
- 15 - Metallic Cartridge Reloading
- 17 - Basic Shotgun
- 21 & 24, How to Zero a Rifle
- 22 - Introduction to Muzzleloader
- 27- 29, Hunter Education Class

Be Safe!



Southwest Region

Outdoor Skills Specialists

Jean Mayer - Cedar, Barton, Dade, Jasper, Lawrence, Newton, Barry and McDonald Counties
jean.mayer@mdc.mo.gov

Greg Collier - Hickory, Polk, Dallas, Laclede, Greene, Webster, Christian, Stone and Taney Counties
greg.collier@mdc.mo.gov

In the Southwest Region the “big three” locations for hosting hunter education programs are: the Andy Dalton Range and Outdoor Education Center, the Springfield Conservation Nature Center, and Bass Pro Shops. Each year several hundred hunter education students pass through these sites. Of the 4,600 plus people certified in the SW Region in 2008, the “big three” certified 1,077 of them! Together these

three locations were responsible for 28 of the 200 hunter education classes held in the region.

Who’s responsible for overseeing hunter education courses at each site? At the Andy Dalton Range it’s Mike Brooks. Mike serves as Range Supervisor at Andy Dalton and part of his many duties there include coordinating hunter education programs at the site. For some time Mike has relied on range staff to carry out the details of scheduling hunter education classes as well as coordinating volunteers to teach the classes. With a solid core of volunteers the range has been able to provide quality hunter education classes to the public since 1994.

The hunter education team at the Springfield Nature Center is spear-headed by Alan Reed. Alan is a retired public school teacher who now works full-time for MDC as a Naturalist at the center. Thanks to efforts from Regional Supervisor Warren Rose and Nature Center Manager Linda Chorce, hunter education classes have been offered at the nature center for a few years now, and with great success. Alan has steadily grown his core group of volunteer hunter education instructors and the center has quickly become one of the most popular places in the region to attend a hunter education program.

Last but not least is Bass Pro Shops. Hunter education programs have been offered at the Springfield-based Bass Pro Shops for several years now, and last year alone the site certified nearly 700 people. Guided by the steady hand of Don Harris and his merry group of faithful volunteers, Bass Pro Shops continues to serve as a wonderful partner in our hunter education efforts in Southwest.

While these “big three” are worth mentioning and the people behind each location worthy of much praise, the work they do would not be possible without the dedication of volunteers like you. The rest of the 3,523 students certified in the SW Region are a result of your dedication. Thank you.

By Greg Collier

Shooting Sports Alive and Well in Southwest MO!

Over 600 Missouri students competed April 25 at the State High School and FFA Championships in Linn Creek. Branson took first place in both the High School and the Junior High team divisions. Branson, Southwest R-V, and Sparta all placed in the top 10 within both the High School and the Junior High team divisions, while Branson and Ash Grove placed in the top 10 among the FFA teams. Ash Grove, Branson, Crane, Greenfield, Hollister, Southwest R-V, Sparta and Willard were the SW area schools that sent teams to the competition.

In addition, Branson, Fair Grove, Southwest R-V, Sparta and Willard all competed in the Missouri State Junior and Senior High School state competitions in June. This competition is sponsored by the Missouri Trapshooters Association,

in partnership with the Amateur Trap Association, and is part of the youth program AIM (Academic, Integrity, Marksmanship). Southwest R-V was state champs in both the High School and the Junior High School divisions. These same five schools then competed in the Grand American World Championship, held August 7 and 8, at Sparta, IL. Branson won the Graduate division, Southwest R-V won the High School division, posting the highest score at the tournament and Sparta won the sub Junior High School Class D division. Note: Of the 15 titles up for grabs, Missouri won seven of them!

Not to be outdone, archery is taking off in our school systems, too, through the National Archery in the Schools Program. On March 7, Crane, Hurley and Willard sent teams to compete in the first Missouri National Archery in the Schools Program tournament. At that competition, Crane took first place in the Middle School Division and Hurley took second place in the High School Division. Then, on May 8 and 9, Crane and Willard sent teams to the National tournament in Louisville, KY. By the way, this year's National competition had 4,565 student archers which was the largest archery tournament in U.S. history!

These fine young folk are deserving of a BIG congratulations. If you get a chance, let your local school boards or administrators know you support what they are doing. It's good to see such enthusiasm for our shooting sports!

By Jean Mayer

Upcoming events, programs, and volunteer opportunities in the Southwest Region. Please note: Helping with any of these will count toward your total volunteer hours. If you would like to help with any of these, or have any questions, please contact your Outdoor Skills Specialist at (417) 895-6881 (Jean- x 236; Greg- x 268).

- September 12 - Online Hunter Education Field Day (5:00-10:00 pm) - SW Area Career Center, Monett
- September 26 - Great Outdoors Day event (8:30 am-4:00 pm) - Andy Dalton Range, Bois D'Arc
- October 2 - Missouri Outdoor Skills Trailer (archery and air rifle) at Autumn Adventures event (9:00 am-7:00 pm) - Joplin Nature Center, Joplin
- October 5 - Missouri Outdoor Skills Trailer (archery only) at Seneca HS, Seneca
- October 8 - Online Hunter Education Field Day (5:00-10:00 pm) - Gibson Technical School, Reed Springs
- October 9 - Online Hunter Education Field Day (5:00-10:00 pm) - Andy Dalton Range, Bois D'Arc
- October 10 - Introduction to Shooting Sports at Wonders of the Outdoor World event (8:30 am-noon)- Roaring River Conservation Access
- November 7 - Online Hunter Education Field Day (5:00-10:00 pm) - Carthage Jr. High School, Carthage

- November 21 & 22 - Youth Waterfowl Hunt - Fellows Lake, Springfield (Attendees must attend the clinic portion of this event on October 24 at Andy Dalton.) Guides and volunteers are needed.
- On Saturday, October 31, from 9:00 am-1:00 pm, there will be an Introduction to Rifle Shooting workshop for women (ages 14 and up). We will meet at Crowder College for a brief classroom portion, before heading to the shooting range for hands-on learning. It will be a good opportunity to showcase our new Ft. Crowder Shooting Range as well as offer a chance for new Hunter Ed graduates to learn or hone their skills. Please mention this workshop in your classes. They need to call the Joplin office at (417) 629-3423 to register.

Hopefully you all have received your new Instructor Guide, 50-question test and answer key, a list stating changes that need to be made in the new instructor guide or student manual, and a new PowerPoint CD that corresponds to the new Instructor Guide. If you have not received all or some of these items, please contact your Outdoor Skills Specialist.

As you plan your Hunter Ed classes, remember that you must first contact your agent for approval as well as for your supplies. Here is a list of agents and their phone numbers:

- Barry- Travis McLain, (417) 847-4784
- Barton- Scott Brown, (417) 682-2470
- Cedar- Mike Terhune, (417) 276-3750
- Christian- Mark Creed, (417) 582-1907
- Dade- Zeb Jordon (temporary contact: Susan Swem, (417) 267-6797)
- Dallas- Matt Hitchings, (417) 345-0485
- Greene- Barb Amass, (417) 895-6880
- Hickory- Robert Vader, (417) 745-6330
- Jasper- Will Carr, (417) 358-2139
- Laclede- Walt Hutton, (417) 588-9191
- Lawrence- Andy Barnes, (417) 461-0668
- McDonald- Adam Strader, (417) 845-1526
- Newton- Jerid Wilkinson, (temporary contact: Adam Bracken, (417) 673-1760)
- Polk- Brian Boyd, (417) 777-2203
- Stone- Dan Akin, (417) 723-0423
- Taney- Quentin Fronterhouse, (417) 336-0957
- Webster- Jerry Austin, (417) 859-3643

Please note: The Southwest Region Volunteer Hunter Education Banquet (originally scheduled for September 27) has been postponed. A banquet will be conducted in the region to recognize our volunteers, but no date has been selected at this time. Thank you for your understanding and patience. We will keep you posted.

Every cabbage, carrot, and apple we eat is raised by farmers who kill deer, rabbits, or rodents that would eat them out of business if left unchecked. So vegetarians shouldn't feel morally superior to hunters. Frank Miniter, Executive Editor of *American Hunter* magazine



Recent SW Region Instructor Training Class, starting on the front (left to right) we have Clint Gailey, Kathryn Savat, Marcia Randell, back row (left to right) Jim McGinnis, Chase Davis, Ray Wood, John Keithly

I want to personally thank all of the regional staff who helped with this event. We had volunteers including folks from Protection, Wildlife, Administrative Services, and Outreach and Education divisions along with several Hunter Education Volunteer Instructors. This opportunity simply could not happen without all of these volunteers giving of themselves and their time.



On May 27, 2009 accompanied by MDC Director John Hoskins and Missouri Conservation Commissioner Don Johnson, the Range Staff at the Andy Dalton Shooting Range and Outdoor Education Center was honored by receiving an award from Governor Jeremiah "Jay" Nixon at the Missouri State Capitol. This award was sponsored by the Missouri Office of Administration in conjunction with State Employee



Andy Dalton Range & Outdoor Education Center

Outdoor Education Center Supervisor
Mike Brooks
Mike.Brooks@mdc.mo.gov



On June 20, 2009 the Andy Dalton Shooting Range and Outdoor Education Center hosted the 6th annual Day at the Range and Outdoor Adventure Fair, which is a partnership between the Southwest Center for Independent Living, Shome Gobbler Chapter of the National Wild Turkey Federation, and MDC through the NWTF's Wheelin Sportsmen national outreach program. This program is designed to give disabled individuals the opportunity to connect or re-connect to hunting, fishing, shooting sports, and other outdoor recreational activities.

This year was the largest event yet as the range became the host to 615 participants, family members or caregivers, and volunteers who helped with the event. One of those volunteers was Hillary Bump. Some of you might know Hillary as a public service assistant at the Southwest Regional Office. She came out and volunteered her time working in the wingbone turkey call station where she and others assisted folks constructing and personalizing their own calls.

Vernon Archer, office manager at the Southwest Regional Office, had a gentleman stop by the office looking for Hillary a few days after the event. The sole purpose of his visit was to express his thanks for her efforts during the Day at the Range event. As it turns out, she helped him personalize his call that hot Saturday morning and according to Vernon, the gentleman stated that he and his family had a great time and it was the first time in nine years, since his accident, that he did not feel disabled. This just goes to show you what kind of impact you too may have in someone's life through your volunteer service.

Recognition Week and is the "Award of Distinction for Public Service". Mike Brooks, Keith DeBow, Dan VanDerhoef, Andy Rhodes, David Crews, Charles Estep, and Ali Underwood were given this prestigious honor for their dedicated public service and their service to disabled Missourians.



After the official presentation at the Capitol, the department held a reception in the Central Office auditorium where we were again recognized by Assistant Director Tim Ripperger. Staff was accompanied by Patty Smith, finance director of Southwest Center for Independent Living, Matt Kramer, Wheelin Sportsmen Committee Chairman of the Sho-Me Gobbler Chapter of the NWTF, and Anna Brashears, Day at the Range Committee, Emma Loofbourrow and Coleen Lageman, Experience Works receptionists, and Warren Rose, Southwest Regional Supervisor for the Outreach and Education Division.

In these same two ceremonies another MDC employee was also honored for her excellent public service in the area of human relations. Sonja Harden, a public service assistant at the Northeast Regional office in Kirksville, was recognized for her outstanding contributions to the quality and morale of the workplace and creating a better public image of state government. It should be noted that Missouri Department of Conservation employees snared two of the four awards sponsored by the Office of Administration.



Upcoming Events Hunter Education Instructors Might Assist With Include:

October:

- 2 – Effective Wingshooting, the CONSEP Way seminar
- 3 - Effective Wingshooting, the CONSEP Way shooting clinic
- 4 - Effective Wingshooting, the CONSEP Way shooting clinic
- 10 – Managed Deer Hunt for the Disabled
- 11 – Managed Deer Hunt for the Disabled
- 24 – Youth Waterfowl Clinic

November:

- 1 through 13 - Deer Rifle Sight In Days
- 21 – Discover Hunting, Muzzleloader Basics

December:

- 5 – Discover Nature Youth, Pheasant Hunt Clinic
- 5 – Discover Nature Women, Pheasant Hunt Clinic
- 12 – Discover Nature Youth, Pheasant Hunt
- 12 – Discover Nature Women, Pheasant Hunt



Ozark Region

Outdoor Skills Specialist

Larry Lindeman

larry.lindeman@mdc.mo.gov

Our newest hunter-ed instructors from the Ozark Region include:

Robert J. and his wife Janetta Cunningham, became the newest "tag team" along with, Dwight Thomas Reid III, Marc Romine, Randall Jenkins, Paula Neal, Aleth Rogers, Lynn Woolever, Mark Porrett, and Jerry Proctor. These fine folks join the ranks of some of Missouri's finest. I am grateful for your efforts to become instructors and applaud your decisions to join what may be the most successful program that MDC has ever sponsored.

Thanks in advance for what you do.

Like last year's, the awards banquets will be in multiple locations again this year. The dates will be announced later.

Have a safe, productive hunting season and as always... "Keep 'em pointed in a safe direction!"



Central Region

Outdoor Skills Specialist

Brian Flowers

brian.flowers@mdc.mo.gov

A big thanks to all of those instructors who are busy teaching classes this fall. The fall season is always busy with the start of our hunting seasons and the rush of hunter education classes.

I appreciate the cooperation and flexibility I've received

from instructors and staff in dealing with all of the new changes in our program. I'm confident that we will have a stronger more stream-lined program with the implementation of the new "on-line" registration system.

I look forward to seeing many of you while visiting your classes this fall. While I won't make every class, I will do my best to visit as many throughout the Central Region as possible.

If I don't see you at a class, I hope you join us in January for our Central Region Instructor banquet. I don't have details finalized yet, but it looks like it will again be in the Jefferson City area. We are actively searching for a larger meeting space. Wow, can you believe that our group has outgrown the Runge Nature Center.

This banquet will be a time see old friends and talk about plans for the future of hunter education. I would like to see all areas of the Central Region represented, so grab a few extra instructors from your area and organize a carpool. With your help we can make our 2010 Instructor Banquet bigger and better than ever.



Lake City Range & Outdoor Education Center

Outdoor Education Center Supervisor
Steven Elliott
steven.elliott@mdc.mo.gov



Lake City range continues to be a busy place and with the build-up to firearm deer season, crowds continue to grow. While work continues on the new facility the current facility continues to see new shooters and families come out. We can always use some help in offering advice and support to shooters, if you think you can help stop on by, especially on weekends.

Work continues to move forward on the new range facilities, but with weather hold-ups and other delays, everyone is getting antsy for an opening date. We have put a few photos so all can see the progress as of mid August.



New classroom, office and range control building taking shape.



New maintenance and storage building for the range.



New concrete baffled 25-yard range with concrete floor and walls, waiting for installation of the new metal bullet trap.



New concrete baffled 100-yard range with concrete walls being prepped for the concrete floor pouring and installation of the new metal bullet trap.



Side view of the new concrete baffles and supports on the 25-yard range.

Missouri School of the Deaf Family Camp

By: Tim Moore, Volunteer Instructor

On August 8 -9, 2009 Missouri Conservation Agents Association along with MDC sponsored a two-day family camp for the School of the Deaf at Fulton and their families. This was held at the H. Roe Bartle Boy Scout Camp in Osceola.

Approximately 150 participants and their families attended. Events included: wall climbing, fishing, canoeing, archery, shotgun shooting and pellet gun shooting. The participants were divided into different groups and they rotated between stations. Dennis Garrison started this annual event in 2004.

With help from the Missouri Conservation Agents Association, MDC, Missouri Bow Hunters Association, and many other organizations, this event is held free of charge for the participants. Several MDC agents and staff, volunteer Hunter Education Instructors, Missouri Bow Hunters Association, and others helped with the different activities so the participants could have a fulfilling and safe weekend.

From a volunteer's viewpoint, this was a very satisfying event and I believe Priscilla and I will be back to help again next year. In talking with Andy Gerrard and Brenda Schulz, they said to let them know again next year and they would also be back.

I know that Dennis Garrison originally started this event, but because of his illness with Lyme disease, Chris Capps and Kevin Zelke took over the reins and held a very well run event. Mark Miller had contacted me about this event and asked if Priscilla and I could or would help and asked if I could find a couple of additional helpers.

I contacted Brenda and told her what the event was about and she jumped on the bandwagon and contacted Andy who also said he would help. I know that the Missouri Water Patrol helped with the canoeing and I am sure I have left out somebody to thank. Special thanks go out to the Heart of America Boy Scout Organization for providing the facility for the event to take place.



Instructor Brenda Schulz works with an individual on proper technique.



Conservation Agent Justin Fogel, oversees trap shooters at the event.



Volunteers and attendees on the pellet gun range.



A future hunter and her dad get ready for a new experience.

Coyotes are not native to the East coast. When Europeans first settled North America, wolves were found along the East Coast, but not coyotes. At the time coyotes were found only west of the Mississippi River. It wasn't until after the wolves were exterminated that coyotes moved in. *The Politically Incorrect Guide to Hunting*, Frank Minter

Our New Instructors for Hunter Education and Bowhunter Education Courses.

Welcome New Instructors!

These new instructors have all completed their training, 10-hour mentorship teaching certification and background checks (Mar. through Aug.) and are ready to teach and start accruing hours. So all you senior instructors out there be the great mentors we know you are. Get with your OSS and make contact with these folks and get them involved now. If you recognize any of these folks who might live near you, please give them a call and ask if you can help them get started. Remember, it is always appreciated when you lend a helping hand.

Central Region

Cole County

Christopher Boyd - HE
Derrick Gant - HE
Jarrad Jewel - HE
Brandon Lyddon - HE
Jarad Milligan - HE

Kansas City Region

Pettis County

Kevin Thierfelder - HE

Northwest Region

Clinton County

Carmen Buller - HE

Ozark Region

Howard County

Matthew Franks - BHE

Texas County

Shayne Boswell - HE
AJ Branstetter - HE
Chris Duncan - HE
Charles Dyer - HE
Dale Garman - HE
John Hauch - HE
Bradley Richards - HE
Kenneth Smith - HE

Southeast Region

Cape Girardeau County

Ben Stratton - HE
Jason Luttrell - HE

Southwest Region

Barry County

Cory Vangilder - HE

Dade County

Raymond Halbert - HE

Greene County

Stoney McCleery - HE

Jasper County

Kathy Butler - HE
Cynthia Cogbill - HE
Paul Forbre - HE

Lawrence County

Richard Simpson - HE

McDonald County

John VanCleve - HE

St. Louis Region

St. Louis (City) County

Brian Alcaraz - HE

News Tidbits

From National Shooting Sports Foundation Bullet Points

Full articles can be found at: <http://www.nssf.org/>

TWO MAJOR NEWSPAPERS, WHICH ONE GOT IT RIGHT?..

When it comes to knowing the difference between fully automatic and semi-automatic firearms, the mainstream media can't seem to get it right. As one reporter, who in a recent story wrote "machine gun" to describe a semi-automatic rifle, said, "I was using the term loosely." Read more in NSSF's *Aiming for Accuracy Blog*.

THE NECESSITY AND PLEASURE OF OWNING FIREARMS...

Two major newspapers last week published stories that accurately capture the varied reasons why people choose to own firearms. In the Washington Post, reporter Christian Davenport does a good job of showing how difficult it is to purchase a handgun in Washington, D.C. In the New York Times, Caitlin Kelly, author of the book "Blown Away: American Women and Guns," leads off her story, "For the Stressed Business Owner, a Range of Pursuits to Revive the Spirit," with a woman contractor who finds that shooting trap is a way to renew her energy in these challenging economic times for small-business owners. Read more at site.

URBAN LEGENDS ON GUN-CONTROL BILLS CONTINUE TO SURFACE . . .

It seems urban legends about new gun-control bills are continuing to surface. The latest fallacy to cause concern is a bill, "SB 2099," that would allegedly require gun owners to list their firearms on their tax documents (and pay upward of \$50 per gun owned). NSSF wishes to be perfectly clear on this matter: There is no such bill. Also generating talk is HR 45, The Blair Holt Act. Sponsored by U.S. Rep. Bobby Rush (D-Ill.), HR 45 calls for, among other things, all handgun owners to submit to the federal government a formal application including: photo identification, fingerprints, medical and mental health records and a completed written firearm safety exam. The legislation also mandates that a federal database be established of all firearm sales and transfers. Though this legislation is real and NSSF is continuing to monitor it, industry and gun owners should not be concerned. HR 45 has no co-sponsors and is not a threat to become law.

HUNTING HERITAGE PROTECTION ACT . . .

In his weekly column published on his Web site, U.S. Sen. Roger Wicker (R-Miss.) discusses the "Hunting Heritage Protection Act" to provide continued hunting on federal public land. The bill, S. 1348, was introduced in the Senate in June. Wicker is a co-sponsor of the legislation.

SUPREME COURT TO HEAR CASE AFFECTING OUTDOOR MEDIA . . .

The U.S. Supreme Court is slated to hear oral arguments in U.S. v. Stevens on Oct. 6. NSSF alerted conservation, sportsmen and outdoor media groups to this case previously and filed an amicus brief with the court. The case centers around a 1999 federal statute used to prosecute a Virginia man on animal cruelty-related charges that could similarly be used to prosecute retailers for stocking and selling books, DVDs or art depicting hunting scenes. In the 2004 case, the defendant was initially convicted, but the decision was later overturned by the Third Court of Appeals as a violation of the First Amendment. NSSF opposes animal cruelty which is illegal in every state, but hunting scenes -- which date back to cave drawings -- are not representative of such criminal behavior. The Humane Society of the United States has filed an amicus brief for the government.

Continuing the Call for Email Addresses

We are continuing our call of the past year for email addresses of instructors. Simply send an email to tony.legg@mdc.mo.gov with your name and request to be added to the instructor group list. You will be able to then receive immediate updates on training materials, instructor offers and discounts, information, notices, web links, etc. without having to wait on snail mail or the next newsletter to find out new information.

Keep the Date Open

The MHEIA 2010 Annual Instructor Conference is set for next March 5 and 6 in Columbia. Please mark your calendars now and save the date. To ensure all instructors have a chance to attend, please **do not** schedule any HE or BHE courses on that weekend.

State Fair Crowds Keep Volunteers Busy



What a fantastic year for the Hunter Education booth and volunteers this year. The crowds were phenomenal and really gravitated to our area like June Bugs to a light. Crowds were so large that many times they were four and five people deep trying to get to the tables and volunteers. It was great that we had a lot of help who could stand out and catch the folks going by the back of the crowd and make contact.

Stan O'Daniel and Leroy Bishop did a fantastic job of getting folks signed up to handle this year's event and the crowds were appreciative of it. In two days we went through most of the items we used during the whole fair last year. We continually had to make more runs to the Jefferson City warehouses and get more items. Basically, there wasn't much left in the warehouses by the fair's end.



The crowds were really interested in this year's display. Instead of the traditional tri-fold with photos, we set-up training aids and posters from the training aid kits in each region. Of particular interest was the "Hunter in Area" wrap around safety banner that is in the kits and that regional OSS gave out to many instructors. If we were in the selling game, we could have made some serious money.

This year all volunteers received an embroidered Hunter Orange pull-over Polo short sleeve-shirt, embroidered with their name and the patch or patches of the course/s they were qualified to teach. Between the shirt and the new instructor caps, we could have come home half naked with big money in pocket because the public thought both were so sharp and they continually offered to buy both off us right there.

This year's volunteers that stepped forward to make it possible: (please excuse us if we left anyone off the list)

Gary Bucke	Tim Moore	Kenneth Claspille
Alvin Moenkhof	Randy Dismang	Bennie Williams
Carl Moritz	Kenneth Maxwell	Mike Mansell
Frank Powers	Jennifer Edger	Bill Littrel
Harrell Green	Diana Occhipinto	Stan Moore
Hollis Archer	Sarah Smith	Terry Powers
James Rhea	Laura Pummill	Becky Wolfe
Jan Moran	Don Fosse	Gabriel Smith
Jerry Bryant	Marilyn Overkamp	Jim Shinneman
Jim McBride	David Voss	Stan O'Daniel
Jim Smith	Delmer Croka	Dennis Wolfe
Joe Grooms	Sharon Harlan	Larry Harlan
Judith Green	Ken Swails	Al Diman
Judy Buckbee	Dwayne Holtzclaw	Mike Moran
Karen Mansell	Jack Smart	Linda Rhea
Leroy Bishop	Dennis Desmond	Josh Hume
Priscilla Moore	Tyler Brown	Ed Howerly
Robert Carriger	Phil Vogel	Terry Yokeley
Roger See	Raenhard Wesselschmidt	

Call for Comments and Errors

Remember to send in any errors you find in the current manuals and materials for HE and BHE programs along with any recommendations after firearms deer season. We will be conducting our annual review of materials and all inputs made for next year's program as normal during the month of December. Mail or email them to Tony Legg at MDC Headquarters.

INSTRUCTOR DISCOUNTS

IHEA has a central web page that lists discount offers to instructors. This webpage can be found at <http://www.ihea.com/instructors/special-offers-for-instructors.php>, or go to www.ihea.com, click the Instructors tab on the green bar, then click Special Offers For Instructors.

You don't have to be a member of IHEA (although it is encouraged) to receive a discount. All instructors qualify, but the vendor will require that they provide current documentation/instructor card to prove that they are a state currently certified HE instructor.

Username: instructor

Password: gohunt

NBEF has a central webpage that lists discount offers to instructors. This webpage can be found at <http://www.nbef.org/instructor.html> (yes, instructor is mis-spelled) or you can go to their home page at <http://www.nbef.org> and click on Instructor Section. Password is wadsworth.

NORTH AMERICAN MODEL OF WILDLIFE CONSERVATION

Best effort to conserve and manage wildlife that the world has ever seen.



- Wildlife is Held in Public Trust
- Eliminating Commerce in Dead Wildlife
- Allocating Wildlife Use Through Law
- Hunting Opportunity for All
- Wildlife May be Killed Only for Legitimate Reasons
- Wildlife is an International Resource
- Science is the Basis for Wildlife Policy

"The nation behaves well if it treats the natural resources as assets which it must turn over to the next generation increased, and not impaired, in value." — Theodore Roosevelt